

THE TRUE DEMOCRAT.

JOHN G. COLLINS, Publisher.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING.

Entered as Second Class Matter March 31, 1906, at the Post Office at Tallahassee, Florida, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Office in Telephone Building, Corner Adams and Clinton Streets, Telephone No. 190.

Subscription, \$1.00 Per Year, in Advance. Advertising Rates on Application.

Tallahassee, Friday, June 9, 1905.

"But the way of the transgressor is hard," isn't it?

And Noble's hospital committee still to hear from! That is, the evidence taken before it has not yet been made public—but it will be.

At last, the fraternal and other assessment organizations for furnishing life insurance protection at actual cost are about to have their day.

Some wag in the Capitol corridors suggested that we might have an extra session of the Legislature "to investigate all the investigating committees."

There's a whole lot of rich investigation material about the Jennings administration which the Legislature did not have time to deal with. It will all have its day.

Many have endeavored to differentiate between the Jennings administration and the Broward administration, but the Board of State Institutions didn't want it that way.

They do tell us that a candidate has been announced from old Leon for the next State Senate. Early! But then 'tis said "the early bird catches the worm"—that is, if the worm does not get the bird.

If anybody can point to any serious disadvantage undergone at Tallahassee, to its moral or material interests, during the session of the Legislature, by reason of Leon county prohibition, no one has yet pointed it out.

Last year, during the Senatorial primary campaign, accusations against the Jennings administration were regarded by some as "merely campaign lies." Now that the truth is being reluctantly revealed, belief is easier.

All honor to the two special committees which "turned down" the broadside of the Board of State Institutions—Blount, Raney, Harris, Adams and Baskin in the Senate, and Knight, Fillingim and Sledge in the House.

The action of the Senate committee to investigate a rumor that "certain persons" were or are interested in the work and contract of the State printer was as fine a sample of "how not to do it" as ever was seen hereabouts.

The Times-Union's prediction that the closing hours of the Legislature would be "marked with moderation, conservatism and wisdom" came true. Note the dignified and truly generous action of both houses anent the spread of the Board of State Institutions!

The Quincy Herald and Era well says that Attorney-General Ellis' contention, when the new management of the hospital was appointed, that the board should proceed to a vigorous investigation of conditions at Chattahoochee, should have been heeded and adopted.

There is nothing wrong with any of our State institutions, according to the Governor and his Cabinet. Everything is lovely and the goose is hanging high. Its a pity the Legislative committee should have made such a slanderous report.—Tavros Herald.

Senator Frank Adams took especial delight in laboring hard for that one vote which defeated the bill to allow the settlement of the Wailes claim in the courts; but he had his reward when Senator W. Hunt Harris, the champion of the Wailes bill, talked to death Senator Adams' pet measure, the State insurance bill. It was a sort of poetic justice which many Senators and spectators thoroughly enjoyed.

On the same day on which the two houses of the Legislature returned to the Board of State Institutions its communication concerning the report of the hospital investigating committee, the House received a similar communication from Mr. Geo. W. Wilson, addressed to one of its members, on behalf of the trustees of the University of Florida, criticising the report of the committee sent to investigate that institution; which was laid on the table by a unanimous vote, as containing reflections upon the committee and the House of Representatives.

AT TALLAHASSEE.

The Buckman college law requires the State Board of Education and the Board of Control created by the act, in joint session, to determine the permanent location of the University of the State of Florida established by the act, and in so doing "shall take into consideration the lands, property, buildings and situation of the respective institutions named in and abolished by this act, having regard to the permanent location of such institution at some central point in the State, both geographically and as to population, as well as to the needs and requirements of the same as prescribed in this act, and the powers given thereunder, and the funds and means at their command, or which may naturally come to the control of the State Board of Education for such purposes; and may, if advisable, after careful consideration, appropriate either temporarily or permanently, the location, lands, buildings, property and effects of any one of said abolished institutions for such purposes. Said board being hereby vested with an absolute discretion and power in the matter of location and sites of this said institution."

There will be strong efforts made to locate the university at Lake City or at Gainesville, and it may be possible that Jacksonville may desire it, as it is customary for that enterprising city to reach out for almost anything that may be in sight. And there are indications that Tallahassee may be expected to content itself with the location of the "Florida Female College" to be established as provided in the act.

Without indulging in a single word of criticism of any of these localities, or making any invidious comparisons with either of them, we see no good reason in the existence of any of the advantages either of them may be expected to claim why Tallahassee should not be chosen in preference to any other city as the site of the university.

According to the act, the new university must possess the following departments of instruction: Agricultural, industrial and mechanical; classical; scientific, "and such other departments of higher education as the said board shall deem necessary;" and besides all of these, it must also embrace a "Normal department for the instruction of white teachers," whose pupils will be of both sexes, and which is intended to be a continuation, so to speak, of the State Normal School, heretofore located at DeFuniak Springs.

The joint board, which must assemble in Tallahassee at an early day, should be fully advised by those representing the City of Tallahassee in this matter of college locations, of the eminently superior advantages possessed by Tallahassee for the location here of the University; and the fact that this place possesses, in an eminent degree, all of the various qualifications indicated in the act, with reference to the richness and variety of its soils, the adaptability of the school property now belonging to the State College, and particularly the undervalued healthfulness of the situation (which is a point not mentioned in the act.) Geographically, and with reference to the population of the State, Tallahassee has no superior within its borders. Accessibility, which years ago was a matter of most serious consideration, has become secondary because of the wonderful improvements in the State's transportation facilities, which has resulted in bringing places formerly remote into positions as completely and conveniently accessible as the most central points in the State's geography.

The necessity of providing for the accommodation of the Normal department is another reason in favor of Tallahassee. If the present buildings of the State College are insufficient to accommodate both the University and the Normal, the latter could be located, temporarily, at least, if not permanently, on the premises formerly occupied as the home of the West Florida Seminary in the center of the city.

The fact that instruction in Kindergarten work must be maintained as a section of the Normal department, and the further fact that coeducation, forbidden in the University, must be practiced in the Normal, are other excellent reasons for the location of that department which we have suggested.

Innumerable other good and potent arguments in favor of the location of the University at Tallahassee will naturally suggest themselves to those whose function it will be to look after Tallahassee's interests before the joint meeting of the boards.

The perfection of light-running sewing machines—the ball-bearing Wheeler & Wilson. Sold by L. C. Yaeger.

REPUTATED BONDS.

A New York newspaper recently contained the following advertisement:

The recent decision of the supreme court of the United States entitled "South Dakota vs. North Carolina," wherein the former State secured judgment against the latter on two bonds, par value \$10,000, amounting with interest to \$27,400 (which has just been paid), has greatly enhanced the value of all other repudiated State bonds, because it has established the law and procedure by which they can be enforced.

The undersigned committee, in 1901, pooled all of our issue of North Carolina bonds and originated the plan just above stated. Results were brought about and we obtained a settlement for the individual bondholders at a little less than par of their entire holdings of these bonds.

This committee is now ready to proceed with the collection of all other repudiated bonds of every class in each State.

This committee has no connection with any other committee, and it knows that it alone is now in a position to avail itself of the above mentioned decision.

Those who desire to enforce the collection of their bonds will deposit the same with the North American Trust Company, 135 Broadway, New York City, and receive receipts therefor and agreement under which the undersigned committee will undertake the collecting of the same.

Another case not mentioned in the foregoing, is that of the State of New Hampshire vs. South Carolina, in which payment is demanded of bonds of the latter State amounting in par value to \$30,000, willed to said former State by the late Benjamin Thomas, of Durham, N. H.

In view of the fact that some have doubted the statements which have been made concerning the enforced collection of repudiated claims against a State, we reproduce the advertisement above set forth, and take occasion to give warning that the people of Florida are quite likely to be the victims of similar proceedings based upon State obligations incurred by the former carpet-bag government and later repudiated by the State authorities. We know of no remedy for this condition as there appears to be nothing to prevent any holder of a State bond or other obligation, payment of which has been refused, from pursuing the course above indicated.

ANGRY SEMINOLES.

Two weeks ago we commented on the misplaced enterprise of a citizen of West Palm Beach who had removed the corpse of a Seminole Indian from its last resting-place and purposed taking it to the North for public exhibition. A recent issue of the Miami Metropolis gives a sequel to the incident, as follows:

Tommie Tiger, a sort of leader among the Indians, accompanied by six or eight other Seminoles, is in the city for the purpose of consulting with lawyers relative to having the body brought back to its home and the punishment of Mr. Neal for taking and removing it. The Indians were very much exercised over the affair, and, before seeking legal advice, called upon several old settlers, with whom they are very friendly, for instructions. In each case they were given encouragement in their efforts to have the corpse brought back and the man who took it away punished.

Tommie Tiger, who speaks English sufficiently to be understood, was strong in his denunciation of the "bad white man," and was bent on seeing County Judge Heyser to have him arrested. Tommie said that the dead Indian who had been carried away was named Dr. Wilson and has been a medicine man. Further than this he would give no information. The other Indians were very grim and silent, though their eyes sparkled with fire when Tommie was talking about the crime that has been committed against one of their dead. The result of their legal investigations could not be ascertained this afternoon.

The majority of the people believe that the Indians are right; that a person has no more right to take and remove one of their dead than they would the body of a white person, and would have even volunteered, it is understood, to assist them in getting back the body of Dr. Wilson and punishing the one who took it away.

If the Indians persist in pushing the matter, it is possible that one of the most interesting cases ever coming before the courts and the public will result.

State Senator McCreary in his Gainesville Sun, of the 4th says:

"The Legislature may have an extra session to settle up the asylum difficulty."

Leaving all, or nearly all, of the numerous counts of the long indictment hanging in the air, is equivalent to a formal reference of the whole matter to the people of the State for their decision on the facts, as they have been or will be ascertained between this time and the assembling of the Legislature two years hence. This Legislature has done well—all that could be expected of it.

THE EQUITABLE INVESTIGATION.

A committee of stockholders in the Equitable Life Assurance Society, headed by Henry C. Frick, has made its report to a general meeting of the stockholders. The report demands the removal of Alexander, Hyde and Tarnell, and declares that every officer who participated in the syndicate deals must pay back society money to the stockholders. It condemns the large salaries of Hyde and others, and finds extravagance and waste in every department. Millions, it is alleged, were used personally to profit certain officers and extravagant charges were made by Hyde and George T. Wilson for traveling expenses, the former putting in bills for \$40,000 and the latter for \$60,000.

The officers of the society are sharply criticised in the report, which condemns the practice of individuals connected with the society entering into underwriting syndicates, where these syndicates had transactions with the society. The report also charges laxity and negligence of management, disapproves certain high salaries paid, and declares that the entire business of life insurance should be thoroughly reorganized in the interests of policy-holders.

The report further sets forth that extravagance has existed in practically every department of the society. Extravagance in expense accounts also is condemned. One feature of the report of far-reaching consequence is a recommendation that the Equitable abandon the various forms of preferred dividend paying policies, and confine its attention to the old forms of straight life insurance. The latter recommendation created considerable excitement, not alone in Equitable circles but in the offices of all the insurance companies in this city.

Under such a showing as this, it is no great wonder that the policy holders have failed to enjoy the extravagant promises of return for their "investments" in the shape of generous "dividends," and that the entire system of "investment" insurance should have fallen into public disfavor. The time is at hand when the public will demand, more than ever before, forms of life insurance which can be furnished at actual cost, with the wild and unreliable and unrealizable prospect of get-rich-quick dividend allurements entirely eliminated from the proposition.

SUPPRESSING THE NEWS.

There is a disposition among many people to withhold information from a newspaper man, often without apparent good reason or other motive seemingly than to thwart him in his legitimate pursuit of giving to the public such information as in his judgment may be of interest.

As a rule, such efforts on the part of these secretive and mysterious personages are wholly fruitless. Given a newspaper man of thorough training and average fitness for his profession and he has a knack of discovering the most carefully guarded secrets, where these secrets are of such a nature as to constitute the commodity in which he deals—legitimate news.

A newspaper man worthy of the name is never a prying busybody. Family skeletons or private scandals have no interest for him. The sanctity of the home is always respected. But he is not to be thwarted by the idiotic whims of those persons who refuse him information merely because it does not suit their personal pleasure to see a given matter in print. The moral to this little anecdote is that when a newspaper man asks you for information relative to any matter in which you are interested it would be to your interest to comply with the request, or give a courteous reason why—otherwise you may rest assured you will see the story in print anyway, and while it may not be dealt with from your point of view, its correctness in all essential details will surprise you.—Lakeland News.

David Starr Jordan, president of the Leland Stanford University, in a speech at Chicago last week said that he "believed that graft is unknown in Japan, whereas in Russia he doubted if one dollar in one hundred ever reached its proper destination."

"So it seems that grafters are at work all over the world."

The Pensacola News, which is engaged in what it regards as a vigorous anti-primary campaign for municipal offices, pleads with the State press to come to its rescue, but pleads in vain. The Florida Democracy is too firmly committed to the primary idea, and when it is antagonized in connection with the use of negro votes to defeat regular Democratic primary nominees, as in the Pensacola mayoralty contest, the Florida press respectfully declines to join in the melee. Besides, the Pensacola Journal is handling the entire situation with such masterly skill that there can be but one outcome—the triumph of the white Democratic primary idea.

CLINGING TO ITS IDOL.

Away down in the wilds of Hernando county, where Florida's Democratic carpet-bag governor came from; there is a weekly newspaper which does not yet realize that Mr. Jennings is no longer Florida's dictator. Read these extracts from the Brooksville Southern Argus:

Some members of the Legislature will draw tomorrow \$360 more than their services were worth. We refer to those who took up all their own time and much of the time of the Legislature in vain efforts to besmirch the Jennings administration. They failed because that administration was one of the best and purest this State has ever had.

A lot of peanut politicians licked the boots of the Jennings administration while it was in office, and now, because it has neither office to give nor patronage to dispense, they have been throwing mud at it, using the legislative committee of investigation as a sling shot. These fellows cannot get it through their skulls that while the Jennings administration is dead the members of it are very much alive, and have lost neither memory or power.

True, some of them, including the ex-Gov., were very much alive, and very active during the investigation period of the session of the Legislature! That their power was felt in the effort to prevent investigating committees from bringing corruption to light has been proven beyond the shadow of a "reasonable doubt." Keep cool, brother, just a little more time will place all things right, for crushed truth will arise again to stare those evil doers in the face.

A GRACEFUL GIFT.

One of the most interesting incidents of the commencement exercises at the State Normal School was the presentation, by the graduating class of the Kindergarten department to the institution of two rare and beautiful pictures, very handsomely framed, one representing "Peace—A Little Child Shall Lead Them"; and the other the Bodenhauer Madonna, both being copies of celebrated paintings; also a statuette—Mercury—for the library. These gifts were presented in a charming manner by one of the class, Miss Mamie Cheny, who is a niece of Mr. A. H. Alford of Tallahassee.

The class numbered four, which was a good record for the second year of the department, the entire number of graduates in the academic department being but seven. Next year and hereafter much larger classes in the Kindergarten department may be expected, because of the new law providing for Kindergarten instruction in the public schools, which will largely increase the demand for competent graduate instructors.

Florida and the Railroads.

From the Titusville Star.

One of the best addresses delivered in the House last week was that of Mr. Watson, of Osceola, during the discussion of the franchise tax bill. As officially reported Mr. Watson said in part that he was not here to defend the railroads—they needed no defense at his hands—but he was sick and tired of seeing members of this house and some people all over the State continually nagging at the railroads.

He has been a member of the Legislature for five or six terms and his observation has been that the railroads have done and are now doing more to advertise Florida than the State itself has done through legislation.

The East Coast railroad, to his certain knowledge, had spent over \$50,000 last year advertising Florida and her wonderful resources, and their efforts, together with other railroads of this State, speak for themselves.

Mr. Watson's statements will be heartily approved by a vast majority of the people of Florida. This is a great State and there should be no room for disagreement between the railroads and the people they serve. Their interests are independent, their aims and objects are mutual as regards the building up of a great country and the making of this one of the most fertile and prosperous states in the Union.

Phi Alpha Banquet.

The Phi Alpha Fraternity of the Florida State College held its annual banquet at the Leon Hotel Friday evening last. The dining room was tastefully festooned with Florida smilax and flowers, while over the center of the table in graceful folds were hung the colors of the Fraternity. The tables were also decorated with cut flowers, evergreens and colors of the Fraternity, the tout ensemble presenting a charming scene.

An elaborate menu, prepared under the auspices of Miss Clem Hampton, was thoroughly enjoyed by those present. The evening was passed most joyously with wit, humor and quick repartee passing back and forth across the board, interspersed with soft strains from the Whitfield orchestra.

The True Democrat was the first newspaper in the State to denounce the desecration of a Seminole burial place by a greedy, would-be showman; most of its contemporaries have now joined in the effort to preserve the natural rights of that dependent people.